

# Newsletter

Warboys Community Primary School



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December 2016.

Headteacher - Mrs Angela Boxall

## Challenge Your Mindset

Do you have a growth or a fixed mindset? This was the question we asked children back in September. Ever since then we have been challenging everyone to think more openly about how they approach tasks, especially those they find a little more difficult. Children have taken time to develop their 'growth' mindset by changing the words they use and by considering strategies which may help them avoid giving up early. We now rarely hear children say 'I can't do it!' We now hear them say 'I can't do it **yet**' as they find methods to overcome their barriers. These small changes are beginning to have a huge impact on children's ability to 'have a go' at tasks.

Our new foundation children quickly overcame their challenge of starting 'big' school. As they shared their learning recently, even the visiting parents were amazed how confident and independent they had become in such a short space of time. They relish any new learning experiences especially when it involves learning outdoors.



For the first time, our oldest children had an opportunity to take part in the county Literacy Challenge. Our school won the local round and a team of four went on to the regional final, which was held at Ely Cathedral, against 25 other schools. Although they didn't come in the top three schools they did incredibly well gaining top marks in some of the rounds. Read the report on page 5.



The challenge of refurbishing the Library was completed this term, albeit a little behind schedule. I had the pleasure of joining Mrs Pienescu with other member of the PTA, Mrs Pawley and the school council, to officially open it. The school council were amazed to see their ideas and plans finalised. They thought it was, 'Awesome' [and that was before they had tea and cakes]. Needless to say we owe a huge thanks to the PTA and parents who supported the fundraising efforts to make this project possible.

This term we challenged the children's awareness of safety. A whole week was set aside for children to apply their knowledge and learn about road safety, personal safety, water safety, fire safety, and safety on line. It never ceases to amaze me, and it shocked the children when they found how many of our youngsters use social media without having high security settings applied. Occasionally issues around social media come to our attention and it is quite staggering to see the actual time some of these messages are sent. Issues around social media are endless and with the increase in online bullying it is important that we all raise the awareness of the associated dangers. Children are not allowed mobiles in school but we will always teach them how to stay safe. As we all know, children are easily led and require these messages to be constantly repeated by all adults around them. Please check regularly the security settings on devices children use at home.



## Curriculum Development— [OFSTED focus]

Whilst securing mastery maths and writing skills across the curriculum, developing other subjects has been the school focus for the past few months. On top of Safety Week, our main agenda this term has been to develop Science. The profile of science has been raised through several active assemblies, discrete lessons and through the new science club run by Miss Savins, our Science Leader. Children have been buzzing as they have explored, investigated, made careful predictions, observations and measurements to explain scientific events. These scientific skills will be demonstrated further during our Science week beginning 13th March 2017.

The school continues to promote and develop creative skills, with children taking part in the local art competition. Music skills have also been strengthened and by the end of the year, each group will have had the opportunity to learn an instrument, from recorders in year 2 to percussion in year 6. All children have had time to improve their singing voices too. Our extensive choir has been out and about singing at the village Resource Centre, at the turning on of the Warboys Christmas lights and at the school Carol Service which was well attended by the community. Children taking individual music lessons demonstrated great courage as they showed off their talent during the whole school music assembly.

Writing skills continue to improve term on term and children have been working to develop their use of higher level vocabulary and emotional language. Increasing the range of vocabulary when speaking and when writing, still remains a huge challenge for us. Having said that, two wonderful poems written by year 3 children can be seen opposite and demonstrate the progress some children are making.

On top of everyday teaching our planned curriculum enhancements include a multicultural week to reinforce tolerance and respect for others, a science week, a creative arts week in the summer term and the continuation of Philosophy for children to develop deeper thinking. We ask that you continue to give support to your child's learning by reading regularly with and to them and by giving them opportunities to develop new vocabulary.



### Good Bye

We say a very sad farewell to Mrs Robinson, our School Business Manager who has made the decision to leave the world of education at the end of this term. Mrs Robinson has worked tirelessly not only as part of the office staff but as a member of the Leadership team.

We say goodbye to Teaching Assistant, Mrs Bartram who, after 6 years at Warboys, is going to take on a new venture at Papworth Hospital. I am sure you will all join me in wishing these two valued members of staff all the very best in their new roles.

Unfortunately, we will not be replacing either position in the immediate future due to budget restraints. However, Mrs Harding will be extending her current role in the office and will become the Finance Manager.

### Attendance Challenge - Well done everyone!

For the first time our school attendance hit 97.5% this term which is brilliant!

We now only have a few children who are not meeting the government guidelines of 95%.

#### Certificates for Attendance:

After consultation at the parent forum, we will be awarding attendance certificates **each term** for 100% [gold], 99% [silver], 98% [bronze] attendance.

We will also present a new **platinum certificate** in the summer term for children with 100% attendance record for the whole year.





Our Year 3 children wrote some poems earlier this term, we thought you might like to see a couple of examples of their amazing work.

Risking their lives, some disappear  
Fighting with strength, courage and fear  
Some died, we remember them, bright star,  
Sad, proud, happy they are.  
Sadly, so many soldiers had to die  
As the bombs rained down from the sky,  
In Flanders Field poppies now stand  
Instead of those men with guns in their hand.  
Rest in peace.



April Year 3

Bravely at War, marching with pride,  
With tears in my eyes at how many have died  
Those brave soldiers, they slowly disappear,  
Haunting flares making them fear,  
Lots of soldiers, they made a stand,  
They fought to keep us safe on our land  
Red Poppies Blow



Joseph Year 3

### PIANO WANTED - CAN YOU HELP?

The school needs a piano for the school hall. If you can help or know someone who may be able to, please contact the school office.



### No Road Crossing Patrol !

At the end of this term, Joan Robinson, our Road Crossing Patrol/lollipop lady, will stop traffic on Humberdale Way for the very last time. She has decided to retire after 14 years. Staff presented her with gifts and flowers to mark this special occasion.

Please note: **the Local Authority will not be providing an alternative crossing patrol.**

When asked they stated Humberdale Way does not have the volume of traffic to warrant this but traffic will be monitored over the next 12 months. If you have any comments regarding the decision not to replace the traffic patrol, please send them directly to the Road Safety Service Manager:

[Andy.Swallowe@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Andy.Swallowe@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

### EYFS Nativity Performance



Dear Parent and Carers

We held our AGM earlier in the school year this September so that we could get on and start organising the events leading up to Christmas; there were a few new faces which is always lovely to see. Part of the AGM is the election of the new committee and it is my pleasure to introduce the PTA committee to you who were elected for the 2016/2017 school year.

Laura Pienescu is the Vice-Chair

Kay Broad is the Secretary

Natalie Halliday is our Treasurer

Lisa Tipton is our Publicity and Advertising Officer

### What did we raise in 2015/2016?

The amount raised in 2015/2016 was just over £9000, which is an amazing achievement.

### What are we fundraising for?

In 2015/2016 the PTA were aiming to raise money for the refurbishment of the library and at the beginning of December the new school library was officially opened. It is an amazing space with new furniture & new books which the fundraising has helped to pay for.



We're not sure what we will be raising money for this year but I hope you will join in with some of the planned events including a Fashion Show, a Quiz, A barn Dance, a Car boot and another cake sale.

### So far this year .....

The autumn term is always the busiest term for the PTA with the Carol Concert and the Christmas Hamper Draw and serving the children at the school Christmas lunch. We have a Facebook page (Warboys CP School – PTA) which helps to keep members informed of events and fundraising news, if you're not a member please ask to join us. And if you like to internet shop, particularly at this time of year or you do your grocery shop online please have a look at easyfundraising either online or the app and raise money whilst you shop, it really is easy fundraising!

### .... And finally

I would like to say thank you to all the Committee and volunteers for their hard work and support and on behalf of all the PTA Committee may I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year – here's to 2017!!!!

Ruth Campbell

PTA Chairperson

# PTA

### Do you fancy joining in?

Did you know that as a parent you are automatically a member of the PTA? It's entirely up to you how active you are as a member you could do lots or nothing or something inbetween. You don't have to come to meetings regularly or at all, just let one of us know that you are interested in helping and what you would like to do and we will fit around you.

**Meetings are held in the Sports & Social Club on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month @ 7.30 pm**

**YOUR PTA NEEDS YOU!**

**CAN YOU HELP?**

**FIND OUT ABOUT THE FUN IN FUNDRAISING!**

**AND BEST OF ALL, WE'RE FRIENDLY TOO!**

**Thank you for your continued support!**



## KS1 Christmas Production



## The opening of our new library



### The English Challenge.

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December, Morgan, Isabelle, Rosie and Lauren went to Ely Cathedral to take part in the final of the English Challenge. We were very excited to be going as we had won the previous qualifying round and were amongst 25 teams who had beaten over 180 other schools to get to the final. There were three rounds to take part in, the first was the Cathedral round. We had to answer questions about the cathedral itself, which was quite hard. Then there was a relay round where we had to answer as many questions as we could in 15 minutes. Luckily it was a team effort! Then we had a book quiz, with questions about the characters in the book. We had a great time taking part, although we didn't win, and would like to thank Mr Duncan for taking us and all the parents who came to support us.

Year 6 English Challenge Team



### Year 5 Tag Rugby Tournament

In October, a group of Year 5 boys and girls went to Huntingdon Racecourse to take part in a Tag Rugby tournament. We hadn't been playing Tag Rugby for a very long time at Warboys but we were looking forward to the challenge! We played six games in total, Hemingford School were the first. Despite some good attempts from Jono and Kazu, we lost 3-0. Then we had to play the team who had won the county tournament last year – Westfield. Noah and Jono linked up very well on the wing, and Luke made a great run through the middle, but we eventually lost 7-0. We thought we might do better against Roundtree School as half their team were in the toilet when we were getting ready to play! Sadly, despite Noah scoring the first try of the match, we lost 4-1.

Then we had a break and Mr Herring gave us Jaffa cakes. They didn't bring us any luck though as we lost the next three games against Buckden, Middlefield and Thorndown. All of the team played amazingly well, with Jono and Noah scoring tries, Libby and Jasmine making some great runs and passes and Luke being very unlucky not to score. Thank you to Mr Herring for taking us.

Lily





## Safety Week

In October we had a Safety Week in school. There were lots of activities taking place in and out of school. On Wednesday, Year 5 went to Ramsey Fire Station to take part in the things the fire service were doing about safety. We talked to a lady from Network Rail about being safe on trains whilst also finding out about how heavy trains are and how fast they travel. We talked about road safety and also learned what to do if we were caught in a fire. The police were there to warn us about having personal information online and we also learnt how to keep safe around water.

Back at school, ladies from the NSPCC visited us during the week to talk about recognising the signs of abuse

and how to deal with this and bullying and who to talk to if we were worried about it. We also discussed online safety with our teachers as well as the dangers of alcohol and tobacco. The children in KS1 had a visit from a fire engine and some firemen as they couldn't go to the fire station.

We all learnt a lot about safety this week, thank you to all the teachers who organised it.

Lily & Oliver.



## Year 6 go to Caythorpe,

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September, Year 6 arrived at school at 11am to get on the coach for the journey to our 3 night residential stay at Caythorpe Court. We were all very excited, as well as a bit nervous but, after saying goodbye to our parents, we set off. It seemed like quite a long journey but, eventually, we arrived.

When we got there, we had a look at all the activities. There were high ropes, Jacobs Ladder, Vertical Challenge, Kayaking, Orienteering, Fencing and the zipwire amongst others. We then went to the rooms we were sleeping in for our stay. These were rooms for 4-6 people with a bathroom off it. We all had chance to unpack and make our beds. Once we were all sorted, we got



started on some activities.

Each thing that we did had it's own leader amongst the Caythorpe staff. They were all nice, but Adam was the best.

One of the activities that most of us found challenging was

the high ropes, which were about 20 metres off the ground. Many of us were nervous about doing it, but we did, and then felt really pleased! One of the favourite things to do was a game called Ambush, which you did in the dark – that was great fun!

The food at Caythorpe was quite nice, we all ate breakfast, lunch and dinner in the canteen. In the evenings we had a campfire and played games. At the end of our stay, we got to visit the shop and spend the pocket money that we brought with us.

We all had a great time and would like to thank Mr Duncan, Mrs Glitherow, Mrs Hunter-Jones & Mrs Ball for taking us.



Dear Parents and Carers

The Governing Body would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Boxall, the Senior Leadership Team and all the staff for the excellent results we received during the SAT's, some of which were above national average and amongst some of the highest in Cambridgeshire. The school has a fantastic team in place and this reflects in the results we have achieved to date and continue to strive towards in the future. We really appreciate all the effort and hard work by all the staff and children, not forgetting the support of all the parents.

The Governing Body unfortunately had to accept the resignation of Angie Curtis, Chair of Standards and Achievements committee. We wish Angie all the best for the future and thank her for all the help and support she has given the school. Claire Eeley is going to take over this role with immediate effect. We also say goodbye to Michelle Robinson, our School Business Manager and Associate Governor. We wish her all the best in her new job and thank her for all her hard work.

We welcome three new Governors to our Governing Body; Barbara Betts, John Parker and Mick Mitchell. All three have vast experience in schools as Governors and we welcome the support and expertise that they will add to our Governing Body.

Governors have been busy this term taking advantage of training opportunities when we can. Alan Evans, Chair of Resources, has recently attended school finance training, and also attended the 'Taking the Chair' training for new Chairs of Governors with myself. Claire Eeley has also been regularly attending the Early Years Networking Briefings.

Governors had the pleasure of coming into school in November for a range of Link Visits and I would like to thank staff and Governors who took these up and reported back excellent findings, Governors enjoy getting into school to do this and engage with the children.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with Mrs Boxall and all the staff, children and parents into 2017 to ensure that Warboys Primary remains a happy and successful school.

I wish everyone a happy Christmas, and hope everyone enjoys the holidays

Regards

Steve Dodd

Chair of Governors

# Governors

## Parents

Steve Dodd (Chair)

Peter Wood-Eeles (Vice-Chair)

Alan Evan (Chair of Resources)

Claire Eeley (Chair of S & A)  
Karen Glen

## Local Authority

Vacancy

## Co-opted

Gina Kujawinski

Nigel Graham

Mick Mitchell

Barbara Betts

John Parker

## Associate Governor

Caroline McKeating

## Staff

Angela Boxall (Headteacher)

Karen Harding

## Clerk

Loren Bradley

**Interested in becoming a Governor?**

**Ready to give something back to your community?**

**Contact us for a chat.**

# Diary

Thursday 5th January 2017	Start of Spring Term
Thursday 5th January 2017	Years 4 & 5 visit to Peterborough Mosque
Monday 9th January 2017	Swimming starts for Year 5
Wednesday 11th January 2017	Years 1 & 2 Trip to Warwick Castle
Friday 20th January 2017	Choir trip to O2 for Young Voices
Friday 27th January 2017	Lions Class Assembly
Tuesday 7th February 2017	PTA Discos 5-7pm
Wednesday 8th February 2017	Parent Consultation for all years except 2 & 6
Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February 2017	Half Term
Friday 24th February 2017	Whales Class Assembly
Friday 24th February 2017	PTA Cake Sale from 3.10pm
Monday 13th March 2017	Science Week
Wednesday 15th March - Friday 17th March 2017	Year 4 Trip to Grafham
Friday 17th March 2017	Eagles Class Assembly
Friday 31st March 2017	Spring Term Ends
Wednesday 19th April 2017	Summer Term Starts
Monday 8th May - Friday 12th May 2017	SATs week for Year 6
Friday 21st July 2017	End of Summer Term

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